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Name (Print/Type)	Muriel R. Sibert	Fax # (if faxed)	(703) 872-9310
Signature		Date	August 4, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. 09/905,538
Applicant DAVID S. BEM ET AL.
Filed: July 13, 2001
TC/A.U. 1724
Examiner Chester T. Barry

Confirmation No. 3922

Docket No. 106113
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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

REMARKS

By way of review, the present invention relates to a process for removing pollutants from aqueous streams. The process involves contacting an aqueous stream with a shaped ion exchange composite at ion exchange conditions. The ion exchange composite comprises a mixture of a microporous cation exchange composition and an anion exchange composition. The cation exchange compositions are those represented by formulas (I) and (II) in claim 1. Examples of anion exchange compositions include hydrous zirconium oxide, alumina, titania, layered double hydroxides and magnesium hydroxide. Pollutants which can be removed by the instant process include ammonium and phosphate ions.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,891,417 (Bem et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. As the Examiner well knows, in order for there to be anticipation each and